

## Message Text

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43

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FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7714

C O N F I D E N T I A L MOSCOW 13122

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FOR GARRISON FROM MATLOCK

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OGEN

SUBJECT: OFFICIAL INFORMAL

1. UNLESS WE PREPARE WAY FOR KNOOP-GRIMES VISIT WITH SOME COMMUNICATION WITH SOVEMBASSY WASHINGTON RE DESIRABILITY OF SOLVING PROBLEMS DURING VISIT, WE HAVE IN EFFECT ACCEPTED FINAL OPTION ON OUR LIST. THIS OF COURSE IS OPTION, AND ONE WHICH WE COULD PROBABLY LIVE WITH, ALBEIT WITH SIGNIFICANT OPERATIONAL HANDICAPS. WE WOULD AGREE THAT ISSUES ARE RELATIVELY MINOR, BUT ONLY BECAUSE WE HAVE MADE SERIES OF SIGNIFICANT CONCESSIONS. WE HAVE BEEN FLEXIBLE ON BOUNDARIES, DESPITE FACT WE WERE INITIALLY LED TO BELIEVE THAT THEY WOULD BE DIFFERENT FROM WHAT SOVIETS ARE NOW OFFERING. IF THERE WAS MISUNDERSTANDING ON THIS SCORE, IT WAS RESULT OF LONG SOVIET DELAY IN SUPPLYING SITE DIAGRAM, DESPITE NUMEROUS REQUESTS FROM US. NEVERTHELESS, SOVIETS HAVE BEEN TOTALLY UNYIELDING. ON GORKOVO, WE ORIGINALLY ASKED FOR SEPARATE RESIDENCE, AND TWO APARTMENTS IN OTHER BUILDINGS. AGREEMENT TO ACCEPT TWO FLOORS OF BUILDING ON GORKOVO WAS MAJOR CONCESSION ON OUR PART, AND WAS MADE ON SOVIET ASSURANCE THAT WE COULD PICK ANY TWO WE WISHED AND DESIGN THEIR USE AS WE WISHED. (WE DID MUDDY WATERS BY TELLING THEM AT ONE POINT THAT WE WANTED 2ND AND 3RD FLOORS, BUT THIS SHOULD CAUSE SOVIETS NO REAL DIFFICULTY SINCE THEY ARE OBVIOUSLY

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NOT IN POSITION TO PLAN THEIR USE OF BUILDING UNTIL THEY

HAVE OUR PLANS FOR OUR PORTION. NO ONE IS LIVING IN THIS BUILDING NOW; IT IS EMPTY SHELL.) WE ALSO DROPPED OUR INITIAL REQUIREMENT THAT WE REACH AGREEMENT ON RECREATIONAL PROPERTY AS PRECONDITION, AND SOVIETS ARE ALREADY BACKSLIDING ON SOME OF EARLIER "OFFERS." THEREFORE, THE ONLY REASON WE ARE CLOSE TOGETHER IS BECAUSE WE HAVE BEEN FLEXIBLE AND REDUCED OR MODIFIED OUR REQUIREMENTS. LINE TO FURTHER CONCESSIONS MUST HOWEVER BE DRAWN SOMEWHERE AND INSISTENCE MUST BE MADE THAT SOVIETS ADOPT REASONABLE APPROACH AS WELL. I BELIEVE IF FULL PICTURE IS PRESENTED TO HIGHER FLOORS THERE WOULD BE UNDERSTANDING THAT QUESTION IS NOT AS TRIFLING AS BRIEF SUMMARY OF OUR CURRENTLY AGREED FALL-BACKS WOULD INDICATE.

2. I HAVE SOME TROUBLE UNDERSTANDING WHY PLACING SOVIETS ON NOTICE THAT WE CANNOT INDEFINITELY WAIT FOR THEM TO NEGOTIATE RPT NEGOTIATE REMAINING ISSUES WITHOUT INSISTING THAT THEY BRING THE STATUS OF THEIR PEOPLE IN N.Y. MORE IN LINE WITH THE STATUS OF OURS IN KIEV IS SUCH A BIG DEAL. THIS SEEMS TO ME NEITHER DRASTIC ACTION NOR RETALIATORY. FACT IS THAT, DESPITE OUR BEST EFFORTS, THEY HAVE GOTTEN FAR AHEAD OF US IN N.Y. WE ALLOWED PURCHASE OF PROPERTY ON ASSUMPTION THAT THEY WOULD BE REASONABLE IN MEETING OUR REQUIREMENTS IN KIEV. WE ALLOWED CUSTODIAL STAFF TO GO TO SOVIET BUILDING, AGAIN ON EXPLICIT (IF MEMORY SERVES) CONDITION THAT THINGS MOVE ALONG PROMPTLY IN KIEV. (LATER CONTRETEMPS OVER LARGE BUILD-UP OF PEOPLE THERE WAS RESULT OF SOVIETS FLAGRANTLY VIOLATING GUIDELINES SET DOWN AND WAS IN NO SENSE RETALIATORY.)

3. IN SUM, IT SEEMS TO ME THAT WE HAVE EVERY REASON TO INSIST THAT TESE REMAINING SMALL ISSUES BE RESOLVED IN OUR FAVOR. THEY ARE SO SMALL THAT THEY SHOULD PRESENT NO REAL DIFFICULTIES FOR SOVIETS. WE FULLY UNDERSTAND THE DESIRE AT HOME TO GET THEM OUT OF THE WAY AS QUICKLY AS POSSIBLE, BUT WE ARE CERTAIN THAT WE CANNOT RESOLVE THEM WITHOUT A FURTHER PUSH CONNECTING NEW YORK WITH RESOLUTION. IF WE DELAY APPROACH TO SOVIET EMBASSY RUGING QUICK RESOLUTION, EFFECT LIKELY TO BE SIMPLY PROLONGATION OF UNCERTAINTY RATHER THAN PROMPT RESOLUTION WHICH WE ALL  
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DESIRE.

4. WE WOULD SET PRIORITIES AS FOLLOWS:

(A) FRONT ENTRANCE; (B) FIRST FLOOR GORKY;

(C) MANEUVERING ROOM FOR TRUCK.  
STOESSEL

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